

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE OR EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

jc803 U.S. PTO

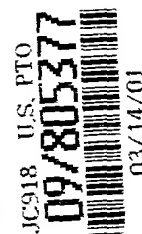
Atty. Dkt. 36-1567

Date: March 14, 2001

Sir:



03/14/01



This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

OPTICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD OF PROTECTING AN OPTICAL ROUTE

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☒ An abstract together with
26 pages of specification and claims including
13 numbered claims and also attached is/are
6 sheets of accompanying drawings.
☒ This application is based on the following prior foreign application(s):

Application No.
00302423.9

Country
Europe

Filing Date
24 March 2000

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

- ☐ This application is based on the following prior provisional application(s):

Application No.

Filing Date

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

☐ Certified copy/ies of foreign applications attached.

This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of application Serial No. , filed
Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/
☐ continuation-in-part of application Serial No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by
reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This is a continuation of PCT application No.
, filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of U.S.
Provisional Application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this
application.--

Preliminary amendment to claims (attached hereto), to be entered before calculation of the fee.

Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Other:

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☒ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

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